

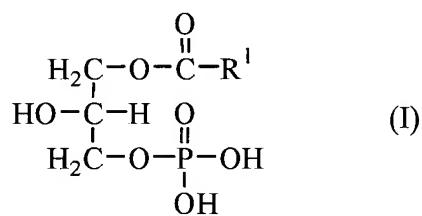
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lysophosphatidic acid.

IN THE CLAIMS:

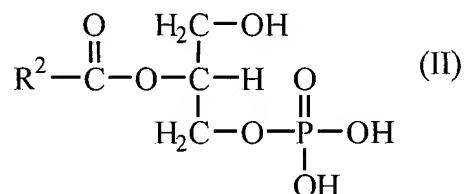
Please amend Claims 5-7, 11, 13, 14 and 16-22 and add new claims 23-49 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of these claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

5. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the lysophosphatidic acids are compounds represented by formula (I):



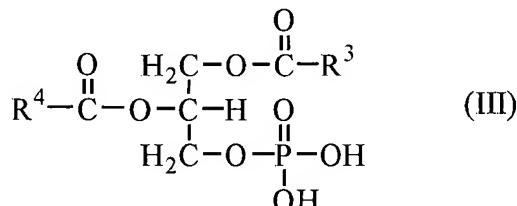
(wherein R¹ represents alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl).

6. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the lysophosphatidic acids are compounds represented by formula (II):



(wherein R² has the same significance as the above R¹).

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7. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the phosphatidic acids wherein the fatty acid residue moiety consists only of straight-chain fatty acid residues having an even number of carbon atoms are compounds represented by formula (III):



(wherein R^3 and R^4 , which

may be the same or different, each represents straight-chain alkyl having an odd number of carbon atoms, straight-chain alkenyl having an odd number of carbon atoms, or straight-chain alkynyl having an odd number of carbon atoms).

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11. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 9, further comprising a protein kinase C-specific inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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13. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 8 or 12, wherein the protein kinase C-specific inhibitor is one or more members selected from the group consisting of calphostin C, hexadecylphosphocholine, palmitoyl-DL-carnitine and polymyxin B.

A/13

14. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claims 9 or 12, further comprising tocopherol.

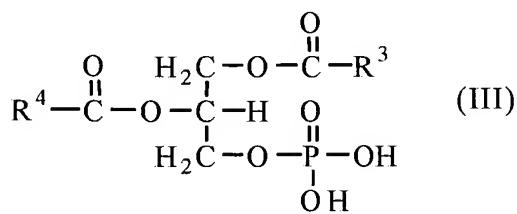
16. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 8 or 15, wherein the

tocopherol is one or more members selected from the group consisting of dl- α -tocopherol, d- α -tocopherol, dl- α -tocopherol acetate, d- α -tocopherol acetate and dl- α -tocopherol nicotinate.

A/14

17. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to any of Claim 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 30, 33, 36, 39 or 42, wherein the fatty acid residue moiety consists only of straight-chain fatty acid residues having an even number of carbon atoms.

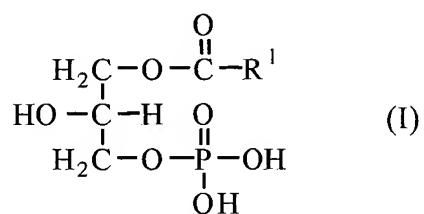
18. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 17, wherein the fatty acid residue moiety consists only of straight-chain fatty acid residues having an even number of carbon atoms are compounds represented by formula (III):



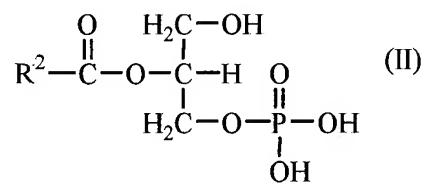
(wherein R³ and R⁴, which may be the same or different, each represents straight-chain alkyl having an odd number of carbon atoms, straight-chain alkenyl having an odd number of carbon atoms, or straight-chain alkynyl having an odd number of carbon atoms).

19. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to any of Claims 8, 9, 11, 12,

15, 30, 33, 36, 39 or 42 wherein the lysophosphatidic acids are compounds represented by formula (I):



(wherein R¹ represents alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl), or compounds represented by formula (II):



(wherein R² has the same significance as the above R¹).

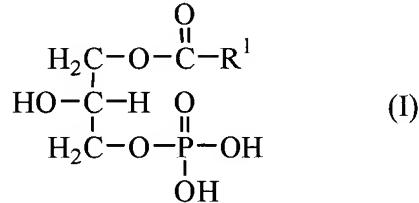
20. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to any of Claims 8, 9, 12 or

15, which does not substantially comprise minoxidil.

21. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 20, wherein the content of one or more members selected from the group consisting of lysophosphatidic acids and phosphatidic acids is 0.01 to 5.0%.

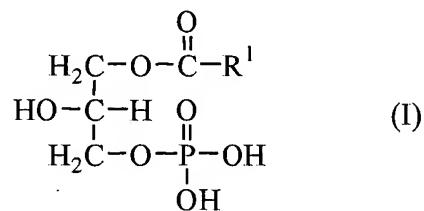
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22. (Amended) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 20, wherein the content of one or more members selected from the group consisting of lysophosphatidic acids and phosphatidic acids is 0.01 to 1.0%.

23. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 3, wherein the lysophosphatidic acids are compounds represented by formula (I):



(wherein R^1 represents alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl).

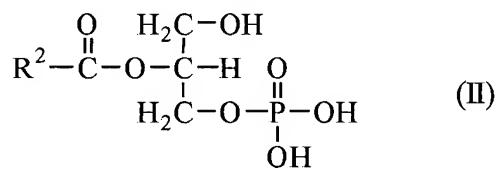
24. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 4, wherein the lysophosphatidic acids are compounds represented by formula (I):



(wherein R^1 represents alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl).

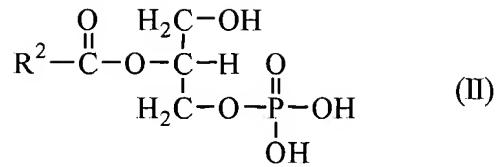
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25. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 3, wherein the lysophosphatidic acids are compounds represented by formula (II):



(wherein R^2 has the same significance as the above R^1).

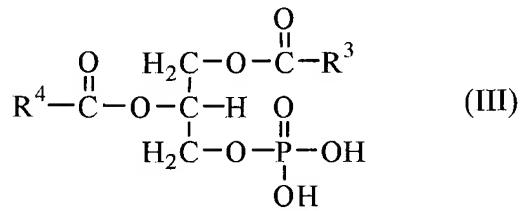
26. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 4, wherein the lysophosphatidic acids are compounds represented by formula (II):



(wherein R² has the same significance as the above R¹).

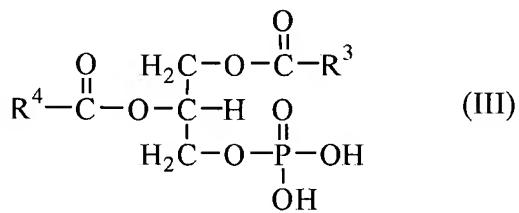
27. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 3, wherein the phosphatidic

A 14 acids wherein the fatty acid residue moiety consists only of straight-chain fatty acid residues having an even number of carbon atoms are compounds represented by formula (III):



(wherein R³ and R⁴, which may be the same or different, each represents straight-chain alkyl having an odd number of carbon atoms, straight-chain alkenyl having an odd number of carbon atoms, or straight-chain alkynyl having an odd number of carbon atoms).

28. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 4, wherein the phosphatidic acids wherein the fatty acid residue moiety consists only of straight-chain fatty acid residues having an even number of carbon atoms are compounds represented by formula (III):



(wherein R^3 and R^4 , which may be the same or different, each represents straight-chain alkyl having an odd number of carbon atoms, straight-chain alkenyl having an odd number of carbon atoms, or straight-chain alkynyl having an odd number of carbon atoms).

29. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 10, further comprising a protein kinase C-specific inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

30. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 11, wherein the protein kinase C-specific inhibitor is one or more members selected from the group consisting of calphostin C, hexadecylphosphocholine, palmitoyl-DL-carnitine and polymyxin B.

31. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 29, wherein the protein kinase C-specific inhibitor is one or more members selected from the group consisting of calphostin C, hexadecylphosphocholine, palmitoyl-DL-carnitine and polymyxin B.

32. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 10, further comprising tocopherol.

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33. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 11, further comprising tocopherol.

34. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 29, further comprising tocopherol.

35. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 13, further comprising tocopherol.

36. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 30, further comprising

tocopherol.

37. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 31, further comprising

tocopherol.

38. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 32, wherein the tocopherol is

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one or more members selected from the group consisting of dl- α -tocopherol, d- α -tocopherol, dl- α -tocopherol acetate, d- α -tocopherol acetate and dl- α -tocopherol nicotinate.

39. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 33, wherein the tocopherol is

one or more members selected from the group consisting of dl- α -tocopherol, d- α -tocopherol, dl- α -tocopherol acetate, d- α -tocopherol acetate and dl- α -tocopherol nicotinate.

40. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 34, wherein the tocopherol is

one or more members selected from the group consisting of dl- α -tocopherol, d- α -tocopherol, dl- α -tocopherol acetate, d- α -tocopherol acetate and dl- α -tocopherol nicotinate.

41. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 35, wherein the tocopherol is one or more members selected from the group consisting of dl- α -tocopherol, d- α -tocopherol, dl- α -tocopherol acetate, d- α -tocopherol acetate and dl- α -tocopherol nicotinate.

42. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 36, wherein the tocopherol is one or more members selected from the group consisting of dl- α -tocopherol, d- α -tocopherol, dl- α -tocopherol acetate, d- α -tocopherol acetate and dl- α -tocopherol nicotinate.

43. (New) The hair-growing agent according to Claim 37, wherein the tocopherol is one or more members selected from the group consisting of dl- α -tocopherol, d- α -tocopherol, dl- α -tocopherol acetate, d- α -tocopherol acetate and dl- α -tocopherol nicotinate.

44. (New) A method for hair growth in a mammal, which comprises applying to the skin of said mammal one or more members selected from the group consisting of lysophosphatidic acids, and phosphatidic acids wherein the fatty acid residue moiety consists only of straight-chain fatty acid residues having an even number of carbon atoms.

45. (New) A method for stimulating hair growth in a mammal, which comprises applying to the skin of said mammal one or more member selected from the group consisting of lysophosphatidic acids and phosphatidic acids, and one or more members selected from the group consisting of proanthocyanidin, protein kinase C-specific inhibitors or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, and tocopherol.

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45
46. (New) The method according to Claim 45, wherein the phosphatidic acids are those wherein the fatty acid residue moiety consists only of straight-chain fatty acid residues having an even number of carbon atoms.

47. (New) A method of preparing a hair growing composition, comprising selecting one or more members selected from the group consisting of lysophosphatidic acids, and phosphatidic acids wherein the fatty acid residue moiety consists only of straight-chain fatty acid residues having an even number of carbon atoms; and admixing said member with an acceptable diluent.

48. (New) A method of preparing a hair growing composition, comprising selecting

one or more members selected from the group consisting of lyzophosphatidic acids and phosphatidic acids, and one or more members selected from the group consisting of proanthocyanidin, protein kinase C-specific inhibitors or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, and tocopherol; and admixing said member with an acceptable diluent.

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49. (New) The method according to Claim 48, wherein the phosphatidic acids are those wherein the fatty acid residue moiety consists only of straight-chain fatty acid residues having an even number of carbon atoms.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended, and claims 23-49 have been added, to correct their dependency in conformity with accepted U.S. practice. Claims 44-49 are added in order to more specifically recite various preferred embodiments of the present invention and the specification has been amended in order to correct various typographical errors. No new matter has been added.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.